Distressed Dhave Bridge

3245. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bridge over the River Dhave, near Rafiganj, where rail accident took place was one of the 262 bridges identified as 'Distressed' in the report of Railway Safety Review Committee;

(b) if so, whether distressed bridges have been strengthened; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not strengthening this bridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c)The bridge in question over River Dhave was not a distressed bridge, hence question of its strengthening does not arise. As far as distressed bridges are concerned, they are sanctioned and rehabilitated on priority.

MoU with Karnataka for heritage train

3246. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways had insisted the Karnataka Government to incorporate a clause on revenue sharing, before signing a Memorandum of Understanding for running the heritage tourist train, Palace on Wheels;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has indicated that it was not practical for the State Government, to pay a minimum amount of money and both the State Government and the Railways should bear the loss and profit, equally; and

(c) whether Government would take step to delete the above clause which was not in the MoU signed by the Railways with Maharashtra Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) The Memorandum of Understanding between the Railways and the Karnataka Government has been finalised and accepted by both the parties.